

From: Roger Crowe
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> Sent: 7-Feb-03 9:57 AM
> To: 'Ohashi, David'
> Cc: aelgar@town.oakville.on.ca; kflynn@town.oakville.on.ca;
> 'Savoline,
> Joyce'
> Subject: 030207 ---- Mid-Halton Master Plan comments
>
> David Ohashi, P.Eng. Manager Special Projects
> Halton Region
> Planning & Public Works Department
> Engineering Services
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>
>
> Dear Mr. David Ohashi.
>
> I was at the meeting held on 5th February 2003 and unfortunately the
> more
> that I find out about the process the more disappointed I get, the
> more
> disenfranchised I feel.
>
> Regional Staff made comments that submissions could be received after
> 7th
> February 2003; however only under questioning by Councillor Flynn was
> it
> admitted that "of course there would not be sufficient time to review
> such
> submissions".
>
> The region purports to be concerned about the environment and
> committed to
> safeguard the area in which we all live. However, all I heard from
> some
> council members that they consider that it is up to the objectors to
> prove
> that the environment is being adversely impacted; and not the region
> to
> prove that the environment is not being degraded by this massive
> increase
> in sewerage treatment capacity and further expansion in the area.
> The
> algae question, like second-hand smoke, will be more than likely
> proven in
> due course, however until that time the region, like the ostrich,
> just
> wants to bury its head in the sand.
>
> The facts as presented by the data presently released by regional
> staff
> for the Mid-Halton Plant is :-
> present usage is 21,498 m3/day

> present plant capacity 50,000 m3/day ---- i.e. an increase of 233% above
> present day usage
> proposed plant expansion increased capacity 75,000 m3/day ---- i.e.
> increase 350% more than present day usage
> Ultimate plant expansion increased capacity 166,000 m3/day ---- i.e.
> increase 772% more than present day usage
> These are the facts as provided by the region, however not actually as
> advertised by the region.
>
> Just like the slide presentation at the meeting on 5th February 2003

> present a slide of the plant as currently, present a slide of the
> expansion up to 75,000 m3/day. But not a slide of the ultimate
166,000
> m3/day as that would not serve the region purpose, nor to portray the
> intended impression.
>
> Regional staff have stated that expansion of the Mid-Halton plant is the
the
> most cost effective way, when to stay expansion and future growth is the
the
> most cost effective way for the present tax-base based upon the
current
> development levies being charged.
>
> However the most damaging situation that I heard was that regional
staff
> are more worried about sending an adverse message about expansion in the
the
> region to developers than to save guard the present residents
welfare.
> Welfare including, but not limited to environmental matters, adverse
> health matters due to potation, financial matters as continued growth
> appears not to be fully financing itself.
>
> Regional Staff did state that they do not grant future development
permits
> until such time as the infrastructure is approved. I am not quite
sure
> how that works as the expansion up to 75,000 m3/day is apparently
required
> for already issued permits (but I am sure that is an other story).
> However, it is evident that the region wants the Sewerage Master Plan
> approved (for expansions up to 166,000 m3/day) so that they can
continue
> to approve growth based upon the fact that the region have an
approved
> plan in place. Continue the merry-go-round, continue on and on
until
> the region is paved from one end to the other. As stated by
regional
> staff to delay the process to give the residents more time to provide
> comments (adverse comments I am sure) will cause delay in granting
permits

> for future growth. In my opinion, what is needed is a moratorium
on all
> future expansion growth until all aspects associated with such
continued
> growth are fully understood. I do not work for the developers and
I
> most surly do not consider that I should in any way pay any monies
> whatsoever for them to undertake their developments. If such
increased
> development levies in order to cover 100% (or better) of such growth
makes
> growth too expensive to them, so be it. I have all levels of
government
> in all my pockets for funding, that such not also include growth by
> others.
>
> I request responses from the region regarding the following:-
>
> (1) Provide a complete copy of the Odour study already prepared by
the
> regions consultant's --- a complete copy, not just selected pages.
> (2) A complete copy of the proposed Sewerage Master Plan --- this
was
> previously carried on the regional website but appears to have been
> removed.
> (3) Layouts that show the Mid-Halton site layout for the 166,000
m3/day
> capacity, based on present understandings.
> (4) Provide a complete copy of the Odour study parameters to be
covered
> as part of the next Odour study.
> (5) Provide a complete schedule timetable applicable to the next
Odour
> study and when such study is intended to be started. (This should
be
> started now and cover summer months).
> (6) Provide the regional staff's detailed written procedure for when
> residents register complaints, including odour complaints.
> (7) Conclusive backup data that supports the region's position that
their
> proposed expansions (plural) will not adversely affect the
environment
> including Lake Ontario (algae growth --- phosphorous implications).
> (8) That continued expansion in the region will the 100% (or better)
> totally covered by development levies. Including costs associated
with
> any upgrades in technology as required due the increase in scale by
> continued such increased growth.
> (9) That the present increases in expansion up to 75,000 m3/day as
> required by presently "sold-forward development" will be totally
covered
> by development levies associated by such requirements.
> (10) What is the region's intended corrective action, if any, to
provide
> "barrier protection" to the golf courses abutting the Mid-Halton
Sewerage
> Plant.

> (11) What is the region's intended action, if any, to increase the
> "barrier protection" to the local residents.
> (12) What proposals the region intends for review applicable to
> placing a
> moratorium on all future expansion growth until all aspects
> associated
> with such continued growth are fully understood.
> (13) A copy of all other submissions made to the region and the reply
> responses issued.
>
> I have also copied this email to Allan Elgar (Local and Regional
> Councillor Ward 4 Oakville) and others.
>
> In closing I would add that a visit to the region's website home page
> includes an opening address by a statement from the Regional
> Chairperson.
> This statement ends with "And of course, we are accountable to you,
> the
> Halton community!". I feel certain that when all the facts are
> known
> by the people, including that we are paying in part for future growth
> and
> that such growth is already causing environmental problems with the
> corresponding lowering of our surrounding environment. I believe
> that
> they will not be pleased, I for one am defiantly not pleased.
>
> I look forward to receiving a response in due course. A reply by
> return
> email as to when I could expect a reply would be most appreciated.
>
> I consider it very important that I learn how I can obtain from the
> region
> a copy of all other submissions made to them and the reply responses
> issued. I presume that this is to be an open process.
>
> Regards Roger
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